

Jose City Council from 1973–1978. She also served as Vice-Mayor of San Jose from 1976–1978, she was a member of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors for District 1 from 1979–1991; serving as Chairperson in 1982, 1986, and 1990.

Susie also served as Chair of the Valley Transit District Board, and was the first woman to become President of the Association of Bay Area Governments. She was a founding member in 1974 of California Elected Women for Education and Research (CEWEAR), as well as past President and life member. In 1990, she became a member of the Valley Medical Center Foundation Board of Directors, and has also served as its President. Susie has been a champion of social justice, and one of her important accomplishments was her success as Chair of the YWCA Villa Nueva Capital Campaign. Villa Nueva is a 63-family residential housing unit for low-income families, which houses transitional and affordable housing, mostly for single mothers and their kids. To honor Susie, the building was named in her honor when it opened in 1993.

As a long-time distinguished volunteer of the YWCA, a scholarship has also been named in her honor, the “Susanne B. Wilson Scholarship Award,” which is given each year to a young woman from one of the YWCA programs. For almost 40 years, Susie Wilson has been the driving force behind the YWCA of Silicon Valley. Susie’s belief in the YWCA’s mission of empowering women and eliminating racism makes her a fearless and tireless advocate to raise support, both morally and financially, for the YWCA. Since 1999 she has been CEO of WKW Mechanical Contractors, Inc. and a sole proprietor of a governmental consulting firm called, Solutions by Wilson, which she started in 1991 after she retired from the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

Susie Wilson has a superb record of community service as well as service to San Jose State University. Susie served as a lecturer during the 1980’s; and in 1994, she was the first visiting professor for the “Leader in Residence” program at San Jose State University, teaching a senior seminar in the ethical issues of politics.

Susie also served as the Alumni Steering Committee for the Political Science Department, and has been a member of the Spartan Foundation since 1982, and was the Foundation’s past President from 2004–2006. She has also lent regular support to the Don Edwards lecture series. Susie was one of the founders and participants of the “Walk for Women of Sparta,” the largest fundraiser by women for women athletes, which raised over \$1 million for women athletic scholarships. She has also been active in the Spartan Foundation, a key fundraising organization of San Jose State University, and also served on the executive committee and board of directors. Susie also received the prestigious Tower Award from the university for the 1995–96 academic year.

Susie has also done work for numerous organizations, such as: the United Way, the Boy Scouts of America, and Cambrian Park United Methodist Church, the church she has attended for more than 30 years.

Susie was a founding member of the National Women’s Political Caucus, a multipartisan, multicultural grassroots organization

dedicated to increasing women’s participation in the political field, designed to achieve equality for all women. Susie is also a member of the American Association of University Women, a leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls.

It is evident by the many roles that Susie has taken on, that she is a vital member of the Silicon Valley community and an inspiration for women and men alike. Thus, it is our privilege to honor her as a significant person in the 19th Congressional District. We would like to take this occasion to thank Susie for her many gifts and contributions to the community of San Jose.

CONGRATULATING DR. RITA RICE
MORRIS

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Dr. Rita Rice Morris on her twelve years of service to Shawnee State University.

Dr. Morris, the longest-serving president in the storied history of Shawnee State University, is leaving behind a distinguished record of invaluable contributions to the institution, the community, and most importantly the students.

During her tenure, Dr. Morris led the university through a period of unprecedented growth in enrollment, academic programming, and student services. Not constrained by the walls of Shawnee State, she oversaw the growth in partnerships and community support in Portsmouth and the region.

Importantly, Dr. Morris touched the lives of young people by improving access to higher education at Shawnee State University. Her twelve-year presidency shepherded in a period of record-breaking growth in both enrollment and degree attainment.

As Dr. Morris departs, Shawnee State University is a pioneering institution in new and innovative programs, including game design and digital simulation.

We are all grateful for Dr. Morris’ strong leadership at Shawnee State and in southern Ohio. Again, I congratulate Dr. Rita Rice Morris on her presidency, and I wish her the very best in her future endeavors.

THE STRONGER ACT OF 2015

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, as trade agreements have evolved to more accurately reflect international commerce, they’ve become more complex. This complexity limits U.S. ability to simultaneously oversee, implement, and enforce these agreements. For instance, in 2001, China joined the World Trade Organization (WTO). Nearly 15 years later, as outlined in the 2014 Special 301 Report, Chinese laws still call for mandatory intellectual property transfers from U.S. firms to Chinese parties—laws that are inconsistent with their

WTO commitments. Similarly in Peru, the U.S.-Peru Free Trade Agreement went into effect in 2009 and contained some of the strongest environmental protection and conservation provisions ever included in a trade pact. Implementation, however, has faced constant efforts to roll back progress.

These two examples do not necessarily demonstrate a lack of commitment to enforcing our trade agreements. They do, however, demonstrate that enforcement resources have not kept pace with the scope and complexity of our trade agreements. As a result, we have not been able to extract the full value of our agreements to the disadvantage of our businesses and workers. Looking ahead, some Trans-Pacific Partnership countries will need significant capacity building and technical assistance if they are to meet their new commercial, environmental, and labor obligations.

The STRONGER (Supplemental Trade Review, Oversight, Noncompliance and General Enforcement Resources) Act of 2015 would create an Enforcement Fund to support trade and development agencies for a narrow set of uses relating to the enforcement and implementation of our trade agreements. This fund would follow the precedents of the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund, the Sport Fish Restoration & Boating Trust Fund, and others that rely on a small portion of related tariff revenue to fund a multi-agency effort.

During the last five fiscal years, the United States has averaged \$442 million in anti-dumping and countervailing duties (AD/CVD) that go to Treasury’s General Fund. The Enforcement Fund would receive a small fraction of our annual AD/CVDs—never to exceed \$30 million with a maximum transfer of \$15 million annually—for the enforcement and implementation of our trade agreements.

Under the legislation, certain U.S. agencies would be authorized to use Enforcement Fund resources for the enforcement of current and future FTAs, the implementation and enforcement of WTO obligations to which the U.S. is a party, capacity building focused on effective implementation and compliance with FTA commitments (with priority given to environmental and labor commitments), and the monitoring and evaluation of U.S. capacity building efforts to ensure investments are spent wisely. Importantly, none of the funds could be used for negotiating new trade agreements. The STRONGER Act would also establish a set of requirements enabling continuous oversight and improvement in our trade capacity building investments.

SAN JACINTO DAY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate one of the most important events in Texas history. Yesterday, on April 21, Texans celebrated the 179th anniversary of San Jacinto Day.

On that day in 1836, approximately 900 Texian and Tejano volunteers overpowered a larger professional Mexican army of conscript soldiers, after defeats at the Battles of Goliad and the Alamo. These outnumbered volunteers succeeded because they were fighting

against tyranny and for their homeland. In the words of the Texas Declaration of Independence, the people's government had been "forcibly changed, without their consent, from a restricted federative republic, composed of sovereign states, to a consolidated central military despotism."

The Texas Revolution proved the bonds of freedom are stronger than ethnicity, as many Tejanos and Texans sacrificed their lives for Texas' freedom at the Battles of Gonzalez, Bexar, Goliad, the Alamo, and San Jacinto. The war was not between Anglos and Hispanics, it was a struggle between all Texans and the unjust military dictatorship of Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana in Mexico City. Texans and Tejanos knew then what we know now—freedom requires sacrifice.

Texas culture places high honors on heroes willing to sacrifice their lives for a better life for their fellow man, and Texans are known around the world as an honorable people who respond to the call of duty. While our young people are answering today's calls of duty, we should not forget those who have bravely answered that call in the past.

With an understanding of where they came from, future Texans will continue to respond to calls to service, and Texans will continue to be respected and admired around the world.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
BENJAMIN HOCHFELD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Benjamin Hochfeld, who tragically passed away on November 24, 2014 at the young age of 43. A passionate family man and public servant, Mr. Hochfeld was a prominent member of the Western New York community.

Mr. Hochfeld touched many lives of various groups in Western New York. While working for Erie County Department of Environment and Planning and the County Attorney's office, he earned the respect and became close with many public officials and employees. He was a prominent figure in Buffalo's music community and an advocate for beautifying the Elmwood Village. His reach to members of the community was many and varied.

Mr. Hochfeld had many passions in his life, but his first love was of music. From a young age Mr. Hochfeld began studying piano and guitar. His passions led him to attend The Berkley College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts, where he further developed his craft. When he returned home to Buffalo, he continued his passion and played with several local bands, most notably with "Necktie Tour-niquet."

Mr. Hochfeld's passions continued with his endearment for gardening. Influenced by his loving wife Tracey, he spent hours beautifying the garden by her side. Their prized garden was featured during Buffalo's famous Garden Walk of 2014. Mr. Hochfeld hand crafted a stone fountain at the center of their garden that helped attract individuals from all over the country to view their garden. Here is an account written for the Buffalo Rising paper by a neighbor of Mr. Hochfeld.

When I first purchased my house on Norwood Avenue, almost 20 years ago, people told me that I was nuts. Upon moving in, the first thing that I noticed in the back "yard" of my house was a number of discarded purses (from purse snatchings) and gang graffiti tags.

Over the years my neighborhood has seen a drastic turnaround. It started with Elmwood Avenue rebounding, which in turn made the intertwined residential neighborhoods more desirable. Avenues and streets such as Norwood truly began to shine when home owners started to plant gardens, paint houses, and replace their front porches. Organizations such as Garden Walk contributed to the movement. Slowly but surely a healthy community began to take hold.

RECOGNIZING DR. BEVERLY
WALKER-GRIFFEA AS SHE IS IN-
STALLED AS THE SEVENTH
PRESIDENT OF MOTT COMMU-
NITY COLLEGE AND FOR HER
COMMITMENT TO ACADEMIC EX-
CELLENCE

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Dr. Walker-Griffea, President of Mott Community College, for her unwavering commitment to academic excellence and student success.

Dr. Walker-Griffea is the first female and first African American president in Mott Community College's history. A native of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Dr. Walker-Griffea holds a Doctorate of Philosophy in Child Development from Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas, a Master of Education in Guidance and Counseling from Virginia State University in Petersburg, Virginia, and a Bachelor of Science in Journalism and Broadcasting from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Dr. Walker-Griffea has demonstrated a passion for ensuring all students have access to quality, affordable, and effective learning experiences. As a long-time advocate for collegiate student success, Dr. Walker-Griffea has served community college students in various capacities for twenty years. Her long history in education includes serving as Vice President of Student Affairs at Thomas Nelson Community College in Hampton, Virginia; Dean of Student Development at Houston Community College-Central Campus; and Interim Dean of Health and Environmental Sciences at Spokane Community College.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffea for her strong leadership and unyielding commitment to academic success and our community.

HONORING MRS. JENNIFER
VIDLER AND THE 2015 WISE HON-
OREES

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, for 12 years, the greater Mesquite area has embraced the opportunity to honor many exceptional women in the community through the Women in Service and Enterprise (WISE) Award Luncheon and Style Show. Today I would like to honor this year's award recipient, Mrs. Jennifer Vidler, who is a shining example of a committed community advocate and servant. I would also like to recognize honorees Beth Gaddis, Debbie Jacobson, and Linda Pimentel for their valuable service and commitment to their community.

Jennifer Vidler has lived in Mesquite most of her life. She is a graduate of North Mesquite High School and proudly served in the United States Air Force as a Specialist. Afterwards, she studied cosmetology and graduated with a perfect score through the state board of exam. Her salon has been a Chamber of Commerce member for 15 years, and voted best salon several times. Jennifer has been a member and chairwoman for the Board of Adjustments for six years and now she is a Planning and Zoning Commissioner. She has been Vice President and then President of Old Town Mesquite/Community Heart of Mesquite. For the last nine years Jennifer has worked very hard with the fundraising, planning, and implementing of Kid Fish and Pumpkin Fest. For many years Jennifer led the decorations for Christmas on the Square by herself, before a few people came to help. She has worked hard to bring a Farmers Market to Mesquite, and this year will be the 2nd Annual Farmers Market on the Square. Jennifer says, "I truly love Mesquite and think it can only be even better."

Past WISE Award winners have served in a variety of ways, but they are united by the long-lasting impact they have made on their community. Their service, community involvement and dedication to enterprise continue to inspire younger generations.

Today, I would like to recognize all of the WISE honorees for their outstanding service and congratulate them on their awards. Thank you, ladies, for helping make our community, state, and country a better place.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 60TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE DENVER RE-
GIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERN-
MENTS

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of Colorado's most respected and valued organizations, the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), on its 60th anniversary. Through collaborative cooperation, DRCOG speaks and leads with one voice while serving nine counties and 47 municipalities, and it stands as one of the three oldest